



American Arachnological Society

2006 Annual Meeting ❖ Baltimore, Maryland

American Arachnology

Newsletter of the American
Arachnological Society

Number 73

May 2006

Future A.A.S. Annual Meeting Sites

2006 – College of Notre Dame,
Baltimore, Maryland

2007 – Susquehanna University,
Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania

2008 – UC Berkeley, Berkeley, CA

All information concerning the 2006 Meeting is available online (complete with hyperlinks) at the AAS website (<http://www.americanarachnology.org>). It is preferred that Registration and abstract submission be done via the website.

PLEASE NOTE !!!

The deadline for submission of 2006 AAS annual meeting registration and abstracts

HAS BEEN CHANGED to

→ 26 May, 2006 ←

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2005 A.A.S. Annual Meeting
College of Notre Dame
of Maryland
Batimore, Maryland
Saturday 17 June - Wednesday 21 June

Hosted by:
Nancy Kreiter

After many years of making its way across the country, the AAS annual meeting finally returns to the East Coast and lands in "Crab Town". The site of this year's meeting – College of Notre Dame – sits on 58 acres in north Baltimore, just up the road from Baltimore's gorgeous Inner Harbor and its waterfront attractions. Baltimore offers a rich cultural heritage that is rooted in its diverse neighborhoods and its offering of arts, theater, history and culture.

Campus & Housing Information:

Oral and poster sessions will take place in the Knott Science Center on the College of Notre Dame of Maryland campus. Notre Dame is one of the few small women's colleges that remain committed to women's education; while a Weekend College enrolls both men and women, the traditional Women's College is composed entirely of women students. Visit the College of Notre Dame website (www.ndm.edu) for maps and information.

On-campus housing will primarily be in the recently renovated, turn-of-the century dormitory Melitia Hall. The historical renovation of the building included the main lobby with a working fireplace, study and chapel. Floors are equipped with lounges, a kitchenette, and laundry facilities, and computer access. "Community bathrooms" serve many of the sleeping rooms; however, there are a number of rooms and suites with private or semi-private bathrooms. Individual rooms are equipped with internet access ports for those who wish to bring their own plugs. Rooms are priced at (\$50/night single, \$35/night double, and a limited number of triples at \$25/night). There is a possibility that we could run out of these rooms if demand is very high. In that case, overflow housing will be offered in Doyle Hall, which does NOT offer air-conditioning. Private baths and air-conditioning – what better reasons to register early?

If staying in dorm rooms is not your style, several area hotels are located nearby. Unfortunately, it is going to be a busy weekend in Baltimore, and rooms might be at a premium. There are no reserved blocks of rooms, but if you make alternative arrangements, you should still ask whether they have a discount for College of Notre Dame visitors. Visit the Expedia or Orbitz site to search for hotels convenient to the College. Our address: 4701 North Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21210.

Travel Information

With its central location on the Eastern Seaboard, Baltimore is easy to reach by your choice of transportation - highway, rail, or air.

Planes: Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport (BWI) is located 10 miles south of the city and is the primary airport for travelers to Baltimore. Nineteen carriers offer almost 700 flights in and out of the airport daily. Transportation to Baltimore is available via shuttle bus, taxi, Light Rail, Amtrak train or limousine service. [BWI general information:](#) 410-859-7111.

Trains: Passenger trains arrive and depart from Penn Station (410-291-4260), located at 1500 N. Charles Street in Baltimore. A taxi from the station to the College takes about 10 minutes. Amtrak trains run seven days a week, connecting Baltimore to cities along the Northeast Corridor. For fares and schedules, call 1-800-872-7245. MARC commuter trains operate weekdays from Baltimore to Washington, D.C. and depart from Penn Station. [For fares and schedules,](#) call 1-888-218-2267 or 410-539-5000.

Automobiles: College of Notre Dame is located at 4701 North Charles Street, Baltimore, Maryland. From the Baltimore Beltway (Route I695), take the Charles Street exit (exit 25). Drive 4.6 miles south on Charles Street to the College entrance, on the left, immediately past Homeland Avenue, but before Coldspring Lane. If you are driving on the I-83 Jones Falls Expressway through the city, take the Coldspring Lane exit. Turn left onto Coldspring Lane and left onto Charles Street. The campus will be on your right, after Loyola College and the Evergreen House.

Buses: The College is located on the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) Route 11 (north) GBMC/Goucher College to Downtown, and Route 11 (south) Riverview to Downtown. [MTA information:](#) 410-539-5000

Taxis: Numerous taxi service companies operate in Baltimore and surrounding areas. [Yellow Cab:](#) 410-685-1212
[Jimmy's Cab:](#) 410-837-7200

Meals:

Although Baltimore boasts a number of fabulous restaurants, with an astonishing array of cuisines, only a few places are within reasonable walking distance of the campus. The dining hall will be open for service for breakfast (\$4.50) & lunch (\$5.50) on Monday-Wednesday. Breakfast is not served on Sunday mornings (but lunch will be served); a continental breakfast will be provided for attendees in the Science Building on Sunday.

In response to requests to provide a substantial meal on the day of registration and check-in, a Maryland Crab Feast and BBQ is planned for Saturday evening.

Weather: Summers can be warm in Baltimore, with average high temperature near 80 degrees. It's important to remember, though, that it is not the mean that's important, it's the variance. Days in the 90s are not uncommon, but temperatures in the 60s are possible. The rule in Baltimore is that if you don't like the weather, just give it a minute – you never know what's coming next. I'd check the weather report before you leave – you might want to pack for heat, but throw in an umbrella if you have room.

Local Sights and Things to Do

For a list of things to do and see in Baltimore, check out the Fodor's online guide to Charm City.

Preliminary Schedule:

Saturday, June 17th:

Registration and Check-in

Informal Social: Maryland Crabs and BBQ on the patio

Sunday, June 18th:

Oral & Poster Sessions

Inner Harbor trip

Monday, June 19th:

Oral Sessions

Casual Arachnid Evening

Tuesday, June 20th:

Oral Sessions

Business Meeting

Evening Banquet & Student Awards, Auction (Doyle Formal)

Wednesday, June 21st:

Field Trips

Special Events and Field Trips

Inner Harbor Trip: The Baltimore Inner Harbor is one of the top destinations in the City of Baltimore. It has been one of the major seaports in the United States since the 1700s, and started blossoming into a cultural center of the City 1970s. There are a wide array of things to do at the Baltimore Inner Harbor. Aside from great restaurants and shops, the Inner Harbor boasts museums, nightlife, and the National Aquarium of Baltimore.

Field Trip: The Chesapeake Bay is the largest estuary in the United States, covering 2,500 square miles and with a watershed that covers 64,299 mi² (166km²). More than 150 rivers and streams drain into the Bay. Our field trip will offer participants an opportunity to explore a subestuary in the inner coastal plain of the Chesapeake Bay. The Smithsonian Environmental Research Center's (SERC) main campus encompasses 2,800 acres of land along the Rhode River, and includes forest, cropland, pasture, freshwater wetlands, tidal marshes, and estuaries. Located just south of Annapolis, Maryland, SERC serves as a natural laboratory and a focal point for long-term monitoring programs and research projects.

National Mall, Washington D.C.: An alternative field trip will be arranged that will provide transportation for participants to travel to Washington DC, where they will be able to explore our nation's capital. The National Mall is

usually the center of every visitor's trip to Washington DC. This tree lined area of parkland stretches two and a half miles from the Potomac River to the United States Capitol on Capitol Hill and is adjoined by the White House. At one end of the National Mall, the Lincoln Memorial faces the Reflecting Pool. Museums and galleries line the mall. The National Museums of Natural History and American History, the National Air and Space Museum, the Smithsonian Institution building, the National Gallery of Art, the Vietnam Veteran Memorial, and the Washington Monument are just a few of the sights to see on this trip.

Auction Items/Reprints

Be sure to comb-your-closets for items suitable to be placed on the block at the annual Vince Roth Memorial Auction. All sorts of arachnological books, clothing, and paraphernalia may be offered. You can either mail items to Nancy Kreiter at the address below, or bring them with you. If you plan to bring items, please let me know in advance so we can begin to put together a list.

Reprints: Bring your extra reprints to the meeting to exchange with colleagues. A room will be available during the meeting where reprints will be available for exchange.

Casual Night with Arachnids

The traditional informal presentations will be held on Monday evening (19 June) from 7 -9 pm. In the past, these presentations have been free-form. As in the past, there will be a time limit of no more than 15 minutes. Please indicate on your registrations whether you plan to give a presentation.

AAAFF

Talks for the Arachnological Association for the Absorption of Federal Funds (AAAFF) can take place during the Casual Night with Arachnids. Let me know whether you have an AAAFF presentation for the meeting.

Local Host Contact Information:

Nancy Kreiter

Dept. of Biology

College of Notre Dame of Maryland

4701 North Charles Street

Baltimore, Maryland 21210

nkreiter@ndm.edu

(410) 532-5718

Amber Ehlman, Administrative Assistant:
aehlman@ndm.edu (410) 532-5703

Please Note!! → The Deadline for submission of registration and abstracts has been

CHANGED to

3 → **26 May 2006** ←

30th Meeting of the American Arachnological Society
College of Notre Dame
Baltimore, Maryland

Saturday 17 June – Wednesday 21 June, 2006

Hosted by Nancy Kreiter

(410) 532-5718; FAX: (410) 532-5799 E-mail: nkreiter@ndm.edu

This form can be used for registration or you can register online at <http://www.americanarachnology.org>

(you can also pay online through PayPal).

Registration and abstract submission through the website is preferred but not required!

Deadlines: 19 May registration and abstract submission deadline. After , a late fee will be charged (see below) and you must contact the hosts for permission to present a paper or poster.

Deadline is 26 May 2006

Personal Information

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Affiliation _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____

Country: _____ Zip code/country code: _____

e-mail: _____ Phone & FAX: _____

Registration Fees

_____ \$80 - AAS Member _____ \$110 - AAS Member PLUS 1 Non-participant guest *

_____ \$100 - Non-Member _____ \$135 - Non-Member PLUS 1 Non-participant guest *

_____ \$50 - AAS Student member

_____ \$70 - Non- AAS Student (*Join AAS for \$25 student membership and register at the lower rate!*)

_____ \$40 - Non-participant (Taking part in breaks and socials)

Name of non-participant guest(s): _____

_____ \$15 Late Fee per person (if you register and/or pay after 19 May)

Special Events (please check all those events you plan to attend and include fees if relevant)

_____ Saturday evening (17 June) Crab Feast and BBQ social (\$10)

_____ Sunday evening (18 June) Inner Harbor trip

_____ Tuesday evening (20 June) banquet and auction (\$35 regular; \$30 student)

___ Field Trip to the Smithsonian Environ. Research Center (\$15 – includes transportation and box lunch)

___ Regular Box Lunch

___ Vegetarian Box Lunch

___ Field Trip to Smithsonian Institute, Washington DC (\$10 – includes transportation only)

Photo & Shirts

___ Group photo (\$12)

Navy shirts with white design (\$15 each):

___ Small; ___ Medium; ___ Large; ___ X-Large; ___ XXL



White shirts with navy design (\$15 each):

___ Small; ___ Medium; ___ Large; ___ X-Large; ___ XXL

Housing

Melitia Dormitories (indicate the nights you will be staying in a single or double):

Single \$50/night +tax:

___ June 17 ___ June 18 ___ June 19 ___ June 20 ___ June 21

Double \$35/night + tax:

___ June 17 ___ June 18 ___ June 19 ___ June 20 ___ June 21

Roommate name _____

There are a VERY LIMITED number of Triple rooms, available at \$25/night. These will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

___ June 17 ___ June 18 ___ June 19 ___ June 20 ___ June 21

Roommate(s) name(s) _____

___ Check here if you need us to find you a roommate. (___ Male ___ Female)

Meal Plans

Light refreshments will be served during the morning and afternoon breaks, except for Sunday morning, when a more substantial continental breakfast will be offered. Lunch on Sunday, as well as Breakfast & Lunch on Monday and Tuesday, will be available in the Dining Hall for those who wish to purchase their meals on-campus.

Miscellaneous

Vince Roth Memorial Auction: If you have items for the annual arachno-auction (during the banquet) you can mail them to Nancy Kreiter at the address below. If you plan to bring items instead of mailing them in advance, please let Nancy know how many and what items you plan to bring so a list could be started.

Reprints: Do you have stacks of old reprints cluttering your office shelves? Bring them to the meeting to exchange with colleagues. We will have a room available during the meeting where reprints will be available for exchange.

AAAFF: We will try to put together some talks for the Arachnological Association for the Absorption of Federal Funds (AAAFF) during the Casual Night with Arachnids, depending on a critical mass of contributions. Please indicate whether you have a AAAFF presentation for the meeting.

_____ Check here if you have a presentation.

Presenters Name: _____

Title: _____

Abstract: no more than 100 words. (Please send as either an e-mail attachment, or on a separate sheet of paper with your registration).

Casual Night with Arachnids: The traditional informal presentations will be held on Monday evening (19 June) from 7 - 9 p.m. In the past, these presentations have been free-form. There will be a time limit of no more than 15 minutes.

_____ Check here if you have a presentation (no abstract necessary).

Presenters Name: _____

Title: _____

Payment Totals

Registration: \$ _____

T-shirt(s): \$ _____

Banquet: \$ _____

Group Photo: \$ _____

Crab Feast \$ _____

Field Trips: \$ _____

Housing: \$ _____

Meal Plan \$ _____

Late Fee: \$ _____ (if applicable)

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Please make your check payable to "AAS Meeting 2006" or pay and/or register online through PayPal at

<http://www.americanarachnology.org>

If you are not registering/paying online, send registration form, abstract and payment to:

Nancy Kreiter

Department of Biology

4701 North Charles Street

Baltimore, MD 21210

All payments must be received by **26 May 2006** to avoid the late registration fee.

Please see next page for abstract submission.

CALL FOR PAPERS

Abstract Submission

Type of presentation:

- Oral (15 min total incl. questions)
 Poster*
 AAAFF (enter details above)
 Casual presentation for Sunday (enter details above)
 Not presenting

*Posters must fit in a space absolutely no more than 4 ft X 4 ft.

Check here if you would like to be considered for the student competition. This is open to any student who has not previously won the student competition. Former runners-up may enter.

Circle the category below that best describes your formal presentation:

Anatomy/Physiology Behavior Evolution Ecology Systematics/Taxonomy

Presenter's Name: _____

Presenter's e-mail: _____

Title of oral presentation or poster: _____

First author's name: _____

Institution: _____

Second author's name: _____

Institution: _____

Third author's name: _____

Institution: _____

Abstracts should be no more than 250 words. Presentation title, authors' names and institutions are not included in the word count. Do not include your full address.

(An example abstract is available on the AAS website)

Please indicate below how your abstract is/was sent:

- Abstract on 3.5" diskette (PC formatted) included
 Abstract submitted online at <http://www.americanarachnology.org>
 Paper copy of abstract included

Check all audio visual needs for your presentation:

- PowerPoint
 slide projector
 overhead projector
 VCR
 Other: please describe _____

STUDENT PAPER PRESENTATION AWARD GUIDELINES

I. ELIGIBILITY

A. The student should submit a copy of the paper's abstract* to the meeting organizer by the specified deadline (26 May, 2006). A letter containing a statement from the student's major professor or supervisor indicating the extent to which the work was independently developed and executed by the student also must be sent to the meeting host**. The name and mailing address of the Meeting Host are:

Dr. Nancy Kreiter
Department of Biology
College of Notre Dame of Maryland
4701 North Charles Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21210 USA
Phone: (410) 532-5718
E-mail: nkreiter@ndm.edu

*The abstract may be submitted via the A.A.S. Website

**The letter should be sent either electronically or by post to the host.

B. The presentation either represents independent or joint research in which the student's contribution has been substantial. In case of a co-authored paper the student presenting the paper must be first author.

C. Entry is limited to one standard paper per meeting.

D. Previous winners of the Student Paper award are not eligible. Runner-ups are eligible.

II. JUDGES

A. A panel of three judges will be appointed by the President-Elect before the meeting. Abstracts of all student papers and a copy of the judging guidelines will be mailed to each judge prior to the meeting. An appropriate number of evaluation sheets (listing the criteria as below) shall accompany the abstract package for each judge. Judges will be chosen from different disciplines (systematics, morphology, physiology, ecology, behavior).

B. Efforts should be made to avoid bias or conflict of interest in judging, either by appointing judges with no students in the competition or, if that is unavoidable, by having judges abstain from voting on their own students.

C. Judges should meet twice: once before the paper presentation to review the guidelines and once afterward to make a decision on ranking.

D. At least one hour should be available between the last eligible presentation and the scheduled announcement of the award.

III. EVALUATION

A. Judges should rate presentations as "Outstanding, Good, Adequate, or Poor" based on the criteria listed below. In co-authored papers, the judges will carefully evaluate the student's contribution to the presented research. In case of a tie or very close ranking, the judges may decide on a joint award.

B. Scientific Criteria

1. Introduction:

- Was there a clear introduction to the research problem?
- Was the importance of the research question explained? Why was the work done?
- Did the speaker provide a background and context for the research? What was the state of the field prior to this study? A review of the entire field is not necessary, but the speaker must provide a reference framework in which to assess the work.
- Was a clear statement of the hypothesis(es) provided?

2. Methods:

- Was there a clear explanation of the techniques used in the project?
- How creative was the work? If the presentation involved techniques commonly used by the advisor, did the student utilize the technique to approach novel issues or novel questions?

3. Results:

- Were the results of the study a valuable contribution to the field? Was the significance of the results clearly demonstrated? Could the student convince the audience they should care about their results?!
- Were the experiments or results approached from several perspectives?

4. Discussion & Conclusions:

- Were the results well summarized and placed in context relative to the introduction?
- How sound were the conclusions?
- Did the student extend the work beyond other projects associated with their advisor, or was it simply a minor increment of similar work?
- Was the research sufficiently independent, unique, or creative?
- Were the conclusions put in a broader context extending the value of the work beyond a small area in arachnology to better understanding within the field of systematics/ behavior/ ecology/ etc?

C. Presentation Style and Logistics (oral):

- Did the speaker speak clearly and logically or was the organization of the talk confused and disorganized? Did the speaker communicate clearly and easily? Was eye contact made with the audience, or was the paper simply read from notes or the screen?
- Were the graphics lucid? Were all of the figures intelligible with axes clearly labeled? Were tables broken into decipherable segments? Did the student clearly put effort into making the graphics used for the talk self-explanatory or informative?
- Were the techniques used explained with a minimal use of specialist jargon so that a nonspecialist or non-scientist could understand how the project was done?
- Did the student project a professional demeanor, or were unnecessary 'humor', inappropriate references, or excessive excuses made?
- How poised was the speaker? Was the presentation "timed" correctly?
- How well did the speaker respond to questions?

D. Presentation Style and logistics (poster):

- Was the poster clearly organized and well planned or was it clearly done at the last minute?
- Were the graphics lucid? Were all of the figures intelligible with axes clearly labeled? Were tables broken into deci-

pherable segments? Were the text, tables, and graphics self-explanatory or informative?

3. Were the techniques used clearly explained with a minimal use of specialist jargon, such that a non-specialist or non-scientist could understand how the project was done?
4. Was the poster clearly arranged such that there was minimal text for maximal effect? Were the visuals used appropriate for the point being made?
5. How well did the presenter respond to questions?

IV. ADDITIONAL PROCEDURES

Traditionally, the award is announced at the society's banquet. Students are strongly encouraged to attend the banquet since this is an ideal setting to "schmooze" with established arachnologists and to see George Uetz, auctioneer extraordinaire, and his minions, at their best.

V. AWARDS

The top ranking and runner-up individuals traditionally receive a monetary award. Other awards vary according to donations and other philanthropy.

SAMPLE JUDGING SHEET

Name of Student: _____

Co-authors: _____

Title of Paper: _____

OVERALL RATING - _____

Scientific criteria:

- Clarity of Introduction; background & context.
- Abstract; summarize main results of research?
- Scope of research problem; hypothesis(es) stated?
- Approach, design, and creativity of study
- Quality and details of analysis; clearly explained?
- Significance of results; different perspectives used?
- Soundness of conclusions; relation to Introduction?
- Contribution to field; impact outside immediate field?

Rating of Scientific Criteria - _____

Presentation (oral):

- Overall organization and clarity; proper timing?
- Oral presentation skill; presence, poise, & demeanor.
- Graphics were high quality and easy to read and interpret.
- Ability to respond to questions.

Rating of Oral Presentation Criteria - _____

Presentation (poster):

- Overall organization and clarity.
- Minimal text for maximal effect?
- Graphics were high quality and easy to read and interpret.
- Ability to respond to questions.

Rating of Poster Presentation Criteria - _____

state of the field prior to this study. You need not provide a review of the entire field, but your listeners deserve to have your contribution to the field put into context. Explain the *importance* of your research question and why the work is of value.

- Clearly state the hypothesis(es) tested.
- Clearly explain the techniques or experiments used in the project. Explicitly describe any novel or uncommon apparatus or protocol.
- Explain your results clearly. The audience only has a minute or two to digest the content of your figures, so make the figures easy to read and to understand (uncluttered). It is often much better to present smaller portions of your data rather than large, unintelligible tables or figures ("less is best"). Provide telegraphic titles that help the audience grasp the meaning of the results more easily. Try to minimize abbreviations and jargon that only you understand. Basically, make it *easy* for your audience to understand your data as you guide them through it.
- Explain why the results of your study are a valuable contribution to your field. In your talk or poster, you should put the research in context so that the audience *cares* about your results. Do your conclusions extend beyond a small question in arachnology? Does your work contribute to better understanding within the broader field of systematics/ behavior/ ecology, etc.?

Presentation Style & Logistics:

- It is much easier to understand a talk or poster that is logically organized rather than one that is confused and disorganized.
- As indicated above, your graphics should be lucid and easy to follow. Are your figures intelligible with the axes clearly labeled? Without you talking or you being present, would it be possible to look at the graphics and interpret the figures? Are the tables broken into intelligible segments? Are your graphics self-explanatory and informative?
- Few biologists are specialists in everything. For those biologists who work outside of your area of specialty, it is helpful if you explain your project with minimal use of specialist jargon or explain the unusual terms in your presentation. Your project should be understood by anyone in the audience, regardless of his or her field of expertise.
- You should project a professional demeanor. While humor may lighten a talk or a poster, humor that misses the mark can be jarring. Groveling excuses about problems with your data or your slides or visuals, inappropriate jabs at members of the audience, or private jokes generally do not go over well in a professional setting.

From Paula Cushing:

To U.S. collectors: please consider using the Denver Museum of Nature & Science (approved abbreviation DMNH) as the repository for your specimens, particularly those collected west of the Mississippi in the Rocky Mountain/Great Plains ecoregions. This relatively new repository for arachnids is curated by Paula Cushing. Identified specimens will be databased immediately and the information made electronically available within a year at the following website: [HTTP://WWW.DMNS.ORG/SPIDERS/INDEX.HTML](http://www.dmns.org/spiders/index.html)
Click on the database tab at this website to view the information made available to users and to view the searchable data fields.

HINTS ON GIVING A GREAT RESEARCH PRESENTATION

Thanks to Linda Rayor!

Scientific Criteria:

- Give a clear introduction to your research problem. Provide a background to your research and inform the audience about the

TREASURER'S REPORT

The American Arachnological Society Final Financial Report 2005

Total assets, end of year, 2004 \$74,292.44

Balance in Checking Account, 31-Dec-04 (end of 2004)
Savings Bank of Walpole, #301097501 \$53,448.01

Deposits

Interest \$113.70
Membership \$41,189.55

checks & wires \$25,462.26

paypal \$15,727.29

Belgium Congress contribution \$12,884.00

Page charges \$200.00

Revenue from OK meeting (AAS 2004) \$1,592.15

Sales \$140.00

BioOne revenue share \$9,224.00

Total Deposits **\$65,343.40**

Expenses

Allen Press publishing
JOA vol.32, no. 2 \$10,986.38 \$37,629.61
JOA vol.32, no. 3 \$14,032.79
JOA vol.33, no. 1 \$12,610.44

Allen Press electronic publishing \$603.00

Allen Press Services \$478.04

Postage, misc. fees \$545.23

Honoraria for Editors \$5,000.00

Student research and paper awards \$3,758.00

Co-collected dues \$4,039.00

AIBS membership \$125.00

Editorial assistance, Dan Mott \$1,500.00

Total Expenses **\$53,677.88**

Balance in checking account at end of year, 2005
31-Dec-05 **\$65,113.53**

Certificate of Deposit Account at Savings Bank of Walpole #600401944
Balance on 31-Dec-04 \$20,844.43

Interest for 2005 \$364.65

CD balance on 31-Dec-05 **\$21,209.08**

TOTAL ASSETS \$ 86,322.61

Respectfully submitted,

Karen R. Cangialosi, Treasurer

American Arachnological Society

Dept. of Biology, Keene State College, Keene, NH 03435 10

Note: This Total does not include the account for the
SPIDERS OF NORTH AMERICA: AN IDENTIFICATION MANUAL
which holds approximately \$40K

Journal of Arachnology Changes

The editors of JoA wanted to make AAS members aware of several journal-related changes decided upon during the last AAS meeting in Akron, Ohio.

1. Because of the increased number of morphology-related manuscripts, Jeff Shultz has graciously accepted the position of Associate Editor for Morphology. Jeff will begin his position in January 2006. Mark Harvey will continue to be Associate Editor for Taxonomy and Systematics articles; Soeren Toft will continue as Associate Editor of Ecology; and Gail Stratton will be Associate Editor for Behavior.
2. AAS has joined JSTOR (www.jstor.org/about). JSTOR is a non-profit electronic archive of journals. This service, along with BioOne, which AAS already belongs to, will make the JoA even more broadly accessible.
3. The JoA editors were aware of an increasing problem and concern over the time between manuscript acceptance and manuscript publication. In order to eliminate the backlog of accepted manuscripts and decrease this time lag, the Executive Committee of the AAS agreed to allow us to publish 25 more pages per issue.
4. During International Society of Arachnology Congress Proceedings years, when the congress volume takes up one of the three issues of JoA, we will substantially increase the number of published pages of issues one and three (the non-congress issues) to avoid a backlog of accepted articles.
5. The editors of JoA would like to remind membership that they can do their part in reducing the time lag between article acceptance and article publication by returning revised manuscripts to the associate editors in a timely fashion. It currently takes authors several months to return revised manuscripts.
6. In the last few years, the first issue of JoA has not been published until the summer. We will publish the first issue earlier in the year, hopefully by April to spread the issues out more evenly during the year.

7. We are increasing the size of the editorial board to add more international reviewers to the board.
8. As of 2006, we will be offering authors the opportunity to purchase direct immediate access of their articles via the AAS website. Prior to 2006, issues of JoA were available to the general public via the AAS website one year after publication. Beginning in 2006, authors will be able to make their articles available immediately upon publication via the AAS website. An order form for purchase of direct immediate access of articles (in pdf format) will be sent to authors upon acceptance of the final version of their manuscripts.

Arachno – Auction !!

Be sure to comb your closets and bookshelves for materials suitable for contribution to the auction held after the banquet at the AAS meeting.

Materials may be sent to **Nancy Kreiter** (see page 6).

Remember, "One man's trash is another man's treasure"!

Michael Jacobi Writes:

Arachnopets/Arachnoboards.com, the largest Internet forum for arachnid hobbyists and other enthusiasts with over 6000 members worldwide, is presenting ArachnoCon 2006 featuring ArachnoExpo in San Antonio, Texas July 13-15, 2006. The keynote speakers are German tarantula spider experts Volker von Wirth and Martin Huber who will be speaking about the phylogeny, systematics, and captive husbandry of Asian Theraphosidae (Selenocosmiinae, Ornithoctoninae). Mr. von Wirth is the co-author of a recent review of the Ornithoctoninae: Von Wirth, V. & B.F. Striffler. 2005. Neue Erkennstisse zur Vogelspinnen Unterfamilie Ornithoctoninae, mit Beschreibung von *Ornithoctonus aureotibialis* sp. n. und *Haplopelma longipes* sp. n. (Araneae, Theraphosidae). Arthropoda 13(2): 2-27. Mr. Huber is the editor of "ARACHNE", the journal of the German arachnological society Deutsche Arachnologische Gesellschaft e.V. (DeArGe).

ArachnoCon will focus on education, field trips, informative presentations, and children's activities. ArachnoExpo will be a one day public exhibition featuring vendor sales of unique animals, books, products, clothing, art, photography, and gifts. Registered ArachnoCon participants will receive a special two-hour ArachnoExpo preview the evening before the expo opens to the public.

The ArachnoCon and ArachnoExpo are ideal for both adults and kids, and the lectures and field trips will appeal to all. Our goal is to present the best arachnid-related gathering ever held in the US, and families, hobbyists, breeders, dealers, students and scholars will all find ArachnoCon 2006 of great interest and full of fun. More information and registration details can be found at <http://www.arachnocon.info>.

A Message from Jordi Moya-Laraño

Dear friends and colleagues,

As a co-organizer of the **23rd European Colloquium of Arachnology** I have been asked to organize a symposium on a current topic in arachnology. As my interests go I decided that a good subject for a symposium would be spider sex in the broadest sense possible. In view of recent published papers that are certainly major contributions to the advance of knowledge in spider sex (review on sexual cannibalism by Elgar and Schneider 2004: *Advances in the study of Behaviour* 34:135-163; review on sexual selection in spiders by Huber 2005: *Biological Reviews* 2005, 80, 363-385; and the interesting paper encouraging sex research in spiders by Eberhard 2004: *Journal of Arachnology*, 32:545-556) I thought that it would be pertinent to have a symposium in which we can all discuss the state of the art of a very promising field for years to come.

Possible topics to cover in this symposium are:

- Sex determination
- Sex ratio
- Sexual conflict
- Sexual cannibalism
- Sexual dimorphism and Sexual size dimorphism
- Courtship
- Communication
- Fluctuating asymmetry
- Mate choice
- Cryptic female choice
- Sperm competition and male-male competition
- Mate search and scramble competition
- Male polymorphisms
- Genitalic evolution

Talks will be a maximum of 15 minutes long plus five minutes for questions. A key-note speaker (not yet determined) will address and introductory talk of 45 minutes plus 10 minutes for questions.

People interested in participating in this symposium, please e-mail me directly (jordi@eeza.csic.es) along with a title and abstract (which should ideally follow the guidelines of the Colloquium - <http://www.ub.es/23eca/>) or at least a brief summary of what your talk is going to be about if you prefer to do it before the deadline for abstract submission (1st of June 2006). Ideally, we should have enough talks about these topics without organizing a symposium. However, I strongly encourage people from all over the World to attend this symposium.

Thanks very much for your attention and see you in Sitges.

Sincerely,
Jordi Moya- Laraño

Estación Experimental de Zonas Áridas
CSIC
General Segura, 1
04001
Almería, Spain

jordi@eeza.csic.es

Student Research Awardees 2006

Award winners from the **AAS Research Fund:**

Efrat Gavish, Mitrani Dept. of Desert Ecology and Dept. of Life sciences, Ben Gurion Univ. of the Negev, Sede Boqer Campus, 84990 Midraseth Ben Gurion, Israel: *The role of spider functional groups in suppressing insect pests: a comparative study in arid and temperate agroecosystems.*

Laurie Kerzicnik, C129 Plant Sciences, Dept. of Bioagricultural Sciences and Pest Management, Fort Collins, CO 80523: *Spiders in Diverse and Conventional Agroecosystems.*

Reut Tal, Mitrani Dept. of Desert Ecology and Dept. of Life sciences, Ben Gurion Univ. of the Negev, Sede Boqer Campus, 84990 Midraseth Ben Gurion, Israel: *The effect of population density on the sexual conflict between males and females in Stegodyphus lineatus (Eresidae).*

Divya Uma, 2004 N. Daniel Street, Apt. 303, Arlington, VA 22201: *Predator-prey interactions between mud-dauber wasps (Hymenoptera, Sphecidae) and spiders (Araneae, Araneidae).*

Jacquelyn Zevenbergen, 811 Hardy Road, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223: *Does plasticity in the web building behavior of the Western Black widow spider, Latrodectus hesperus, affect foraging and defense?*

Award winners from the **Vince Roth fund:**

Abraham Miller, Box 19498, 501 South Nedderman Drive, Arlington, TX 76019-0498: *Phylogeography of Northern Most Occurring Scorpion in the Western Hemisphere: Paruroctonus boreus.*

Steven Thomas, Dept. Biology LS204E, 5500 Campanile Drive, San Diego State University, San Diego, CA 92182: *Studies of the Eastern North American Phalangodidae (Laniatores: Opiliones).*

Jo-Anne Sewlal, Department of Life Sciences, University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago: *Survey of spiders in St. Kitts, West Indies.*

Congratulations to the awardees! Information on the 2007 round of funding may be found at the AAS Website (see page 15). Deadline for submission is 15 January, 2007.

World Spider Catalog Version 6.5

This work by Norm Platnick and edited by Peter Merrett and H. Don Cameron may be accessed at the following URL...

<http://research.amnh.org/entomology/spiders/catalog/>

Individual Membership Listing of the American Arachnological Society Spring 2006

The By-Laws of the American Arachnological Society state in **Article II Section 9a**: “ ... Starting in 1985 the complete membership of the Society shall be published in the newsletter of the Society every five years.”.

Thus, a listing of all Individual Members in good standing in the American Arachnological Society is provided below.

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Our New A.A.S. Graduate Student Representative

Shawn Wilder writes:

My name is Shawn Wilder and I am the Graduate Student Executive Committee Representative for the AAS. My role on the Executive Committee is to represent the interests and concerns of graduate students. Feel free to contact me (wilders@muohio.edu) with any questions or concerns and I will relay them to the Executive Committee.

Cheers,

Shawn Wilder
Doctoral Candidate
Miami University
Oxford, OH

American Arachnology

The Newsletter of the American Arachnological Society
Number 73
May 2006

AMERICAN ARACHNOLOGICAL SOCIETY WEBSITE

[HTTP://WWW.AMERICANARACHNOLOGY.ORG](http://www.americanarachnology.org)

Ken Prestwich has developed our website where one may find membership information, **Annual Meeting Info & registration**, announcements & Bulletin Board, officers, meeting minutes, instructions to JOA authors, an electronic JOA index, graduate study opportunities, a photo gallery, links to other arachnological sites, and **JOA OnLine** (electronic versions of the Journal of Arachnology; available to A.A.S. Members). Many, many thanks and kudos to Ken for applying his time and skill to the Website!! Thanks too to Holy Cross for sponsoring the site.

ARACHNOLOGY IN CYBERSPACE

International Society of Arachnology- WWW.ARACHNOLOGY.ORG; **The Arachnology Homepage** - WWW.ARACHNOLOGY.BE
European Society of Arachnology—WWW.EUROPEAN-ARACHNOLOGY.ORG/; **Arachnology Links** - WWW.IL-ST-ACAD-SCI.ORG/SPIDERS.HTML; **British Arachnological Society** - WWW.BRITISHSPIDERS.ORG.UK/; **Australasian Arachnological Society**—WWW.AUSTRALASIAN-ARACHNOLOGY.ORG/; **Spiders of North America**—KASTON.TRANSY.EDU/SPIDERLIST/INDEX.HTML

JOURNAL OF ARACHNOLOGY ELECTRONIC INDEX

The electronic index for the Journal of Arachnology is available at: <http://vassun.vassar.edu/~celt/suter/spiderform.html>
Note that the main search keywords are: SCORPION, SPIDER, HARVESTMAN, MITE. Any word or taxon that is in a title may be found with a search of the Index. Thanks to Bob Suter: SUTER@VASSAR.EDU [HTTP://FACULTY.VASSAR.EDU/~SUTER/SUTER.HTML](http://FACULTY.VASSAR.EDU/~SUTER/SUTER.HTML)

AMERICAN ARACHNOLOGY

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Middletown, Ohio, 45042

AMERICAN ARACHNOLOGY

is the official newsletter of the American Arachnological Society, and is distributed biannually to members of the Society. Items for the Newsletter should be sent to the Editor, Alan Cady, Dept. Zoology, Miami Univ.-Middletown, 4200 E. Univ. Blvd., Middletown, Ohio, 45042, USA, Voice: (513)727-3258, Fax: (513)727-3450; E-mail: CADYAB@MUOHIO.EDU. Deadline for receipt of material for Volume 74) is 1 October, 2006. All correspondence concerning changes of address and information on membership in the American Arachnological Society should be addressed to the Membership Secretary, Jeffery Shultz, American Arachnological Society, Dept. of Entomology, Univ. of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742; Voice:(301)405-7519, Fax:(301)314-9290, E-mail: JSHULTZ@UMD.EDU. Membership information may be found at the AAS website: <http://WWW.AMERICANARACHNOLOGY.ORG>. Members of the Society also receive the JOURNAL OF ARACHNOLOGY (published triannually) and have access to electronic resources (JOA OnLine).

Significant Web Links and Contact Points For 2006 AAS Meeting

Hosts— Nancy Kreiter: nkreiter@ndm.edu

410-532-5718

College of Notre Dame: www.ndm.edu

Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport: www.bwiairport.com/

Baltimore: www.baltimore.org/

Maryland Transit Administration (MTA):
www.mtamaryland.com/

Guide to Charm City:
www.fodors.com/miniguides/mgresults.cfm?destination=baltimore@20&cur_section=sig